

NOTICE

TO: Attorneys
FR: Peter J. Welsh, Clerk of Court
RE: General or Special Admission

Attached is a Petition for Admission to Practice in this Court.

All attorneys must go through PACER to request e-filing privileges for our Court if you are not already an ECF registered user.

GENERAL ADMISSION: If you are seeking general admission **in Scranton**, Chief Magistrate Judge Karoline Mehalchick conducts a virtual swearing in ceremony the first Friday of every month by Zoom. Please complete the attached Petition, email it to corey_wimmer@pamd.uscourts.gov and you will receive confirmation of the date and time of the ceremony, along with a zoom link for the ceremony. If you need an alternative date for the ceremony, please email corey_wimmer@pamd.uscourts.gov to inquire as to whether there is any availability on another date. If you are seeking general admission **in Williamsport**, please complete the attached Petition, contact one of the judges in Williamsport, and set up a time to appear before the court to be sworn in. For information regarding general admission **in Harrisburg**, please contact the Clerk's office there, at 717-221-3920, to make arrangements. Admissions **in Wilkes-Barre** may be arranged by contacting Nicole Rinaldi at 570-831-2572 or nicole_rinaldi@pamd.uscourts.gov. On the day you are sworn in, your sponsor must be present to move for your admission. Bring the completed application with you, together with a check for \$224.00, payable to Clerk of Court, or call 570-207-5600 or 717-221-3920 to make your payment by phone.

SPECIAL ADMISSION: If you are seeking special admission for a particular case, you need to obtain e-filing privileges through PACER for our Court, complete the attached Petition, and file it in the case in which you are seeking special admission. Do not have another attorney file your Petition on your behalf. To file your Petition, log into ECF, click on Civil or Criminal, then click on "Other Documents" and select the "Petition for Special Admission - Pro Hac Vice" event. During the filing of your petition, you will be prompted to enter your credit card information for the \$50.00 fee associated with this filing.

If you need any further assistance, feel free to call my office at (570) 207-5600.

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATION FOR :
ADMISSION TO PRACTICE IN THIS COURT :

PETITION

I, Richard Polk Lawson, hereby petition the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania to admit me to practice before that Court. In support of my petition, I state as follows:

My office address is: 1001 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Suite 530
Washington, DC 20004
Office Telephone: 1 (202) 684-8361

I was admitted to practice before the Courts listed below on the date shown after the name of each Court, and I am currently a member in good standing of all those Courts.

State Highest Ct.: Florida (April 1999); D.C. (August 2006); New York (Nov. 2006)

Federal Courts: S.D. Fla. (Jan. 2022); M.D. Fla. (Jan. 2022); D.Colo (May 2023)

9th Cir. (June 2022); 11th Cir. (Jan. 2022); SCOTUS (Feb. 2007)

My attorney Identification number is: Florida Bar #: 165085

FOR COURT USE ONLY

 GENERAL ADMISSION:

GRANTED BY THE COURT: _____ Date: _____

 SPECIAL ADMISSION:

GRANTED BY THE COURT _____ Date: _____

Please Answer the Following Questions:

All occasions, if any, on which I have been convicted of a crime (subsequent to my becoming an attorney), censured, suspended, disciplined or disbarred by any court are set forth as follows: (State the facts and circumstances connected with each; if none, state "none".)

None.

All occasions, if any, on which I have been held in contempt of court are set forth as follows: (State the nature and final disposition of contempt; if none, state "none".)

None

I do ☐, do not ☒, have any disciplinary action, contempt or other proceedings involving me pending before any court. (Check the appropriate space.) If there are pending proceedings, please explain:

I am seeking:

☐ General Admission under Local Rule LR 83.8.1

☒ Special Admission (specify by placing a checkmark in the appropriate rule below)

LR 83.8.2.1 ☒, LR 83.8.2.2 ☐, LR 83.8.2.3 ☐, or LR 83.8.2.4 ☐

If seeking special admission under Local Rules LR 83.8.2.1, LR 83.8.2.2, LR 83.8.2.3, or LR 83.8.2.4, the basis for my admission under the designated rule is as follows:

I satisfy the the qualifications set out in LR 83.8.2.1. There are no pending disciplinary proceedings against me. I seek special admission for a single particular case.

NAME THE PARTY YOU REPRESENT:

Plaintiffs

If special admission is requested for a particular case, please list case number and caption:

Case # 1:24-cv-00147

Caption # Keefer, et al., v. Biden, et al.

I understand that:

- 1) If seeking admission under Section LR 83.8.2.2, LR 83.8.2.3, or 83.8.2.4, I must submit a letter from a superior stating the agency with which I am employed and the duties performed which qualify me for admission under those sections.
- 2) If petitioning for admission, only in a particular case, under Rule LR 83.8.2.1, I need no sponsor's certificate. Any attorney specially admitted under LR 83.8.2.1, shall, in each proceeding in which he or she appears, have associate counsel who is generally admitted under Local Rule 83.8.1 to practice in this court, whose appearance shall also be entered of record and upon whom all pleadings, motions, notices, and other papers may be served in accordance with any statute or applicable rule. The attendance of any such associate counsel upon the hearing of any motion or the taking of any testimony shall be sufficient appearance for the party or parties represented by such associate counsel. Either the specially admitted attorney or associate counsel must be fully prepared to participate in any hearings, arguments, conferences, and trials. (See LR 83.9)

If special admission is requested for a particular case, please list the name, address, telephone number and bar identification number of associate counsel to be entered of record in the case:

Karen T. DiSalvo, 1451 Quentin Road, Suite 232, Lebanon, PA 17042

Tele: (717) 281-1776

PA Bar No.: 80309

- 3) If seeking general admission under Rule LR 83.8.1, I must be a member of the bar of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and have a sponsor who is a member in good standing of the Bar of this Court present to move for my admission and I must submit the sponsor's certificate with my petition.

PETITIONER

(Bar Identification Number and State where admitted)

(Date)

By signing this petition for admission, I acknowledge that I have read the attached Middle District of Pennsylvania Code of Professional Conduct and agree to subscribe to the standards set forth in the Code.

NAME OF PETITIONER /s/ Richard P. Lawson

SPONSOR'S CERTIFICATE:

I, _____, am a member in good standing of the Bar of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, having been admitted to practice on (month)_____ (day)_____, (year)_____. I have known the above petitioner for _____.

To my knowledge, the petitioner's moral character is as follows:

To my knowledge, the petitioner's educational background and experience are as follows:

I sponsor and recommend _____
for admission as a qualified attorney to practice before this court.

(sponsor)

Office address: _____

Telephone: _____

Attorney Bar I.D. Code No. _____

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT**

As a member of the Bar of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, I will strive for the following professional ideal:

1. The rule of law will govern my entire conduct. I will not violate the law or place myself above the law.
2. I will treat with civility and respect the lawyers, clients, opposing parties, the court and all the officials with whom I work. Professional courtesy is compatible with vigorous advocacy and zealous representation. Even though antagonism may be expected by my client, it is not part of my duty to my client.
3. I will respect other lawyers' schedules as my own, and will seek agreement on meetings, depositions, hearings, and trial dates. A reasonable request for a scheduling accommodation should never be unreasonably refused.
4. Communications are lifelines. I will keep the lines open. Telephone calls and correspondence are a two-way channel; I will respond to them promptly.
5. I will be punctual in appointments, communications and in honoring scheduled appearances. Neglect and tardiness are demeaning to others and to the judicial system.
6. I will earnestly attempt to resolve differences through negotiation, expeditiously and without needless expense.
7. Procedural rules are necessary to judicial order and decorum. I will be mindful that pleadings, discovery processes and motions cost time and money. I will not use them heedlessly. If an adversary is entitled to something, I will provide it without unnecessary formalities.
8. I will not engage in conduct that brings disorder or disruption to the courtroom. I will advise my client and witnesses appearing in court of the proper conduct expected and required there and, to the best of my ability, prevent my client and witnesses from creating disorder or disruption.
9. Before dates for hearings or trials are set, or if that is not feasible immediately after such date has been set, I will attempt to verify the availability of necessary participants and witnesses so I can promptly notify the court of any likely problems.

I agree to subscribe to the above
Code of Professional Conduct:

/s/ Richard P. Lawson

Signature